

Message Text

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TAGS: EFIS, CA

SUBJECT: TWO US/CANADA FISHERIES AGREEMENTS SIGNED
1. ON FEBRUARY 24, 1977, REPRESENTATIVES OF US AND CANADIAN
GOVERNMENTS SIGNED TWO FISHERIES AGREEMENTS: RECIPROCAL
FISHERIES AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOL AMENDING US/CANADA FRASER
RIVER SALMON CONVENTION. RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT SIGNED BY
L.H. LEGAULT, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORATE,
DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENT FOR CANADA AND
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ROZANNE L. RIDGWAY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
OCEANS AND FISHERIES AFFAIRS, FOR US. PROTOCOL SIGNED BY
RUSSELL MCKINNEY, MINISTER OF CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHING-
TON, AND AMBASSADOR FREDERICK IRVING.

2. RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT, WHICH EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 1977,

PROVIDES FOR CONTINUATION OF EACH NATION'S FISHERIES IN OTHER'S 200-MILE ZONE. AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ARRANGEMENTS IN "BOUNDARY REGIONS" WHERE BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE ASSERTED JURISDICTION, MOST IMPORTANT BEING GEORGES BANK IN GULF OF MAINE. INTENT OF AGREEMENT IS TO BUY TIME TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADA FOR LONG-TERM AGREEMENTS ON MARITIME BOUNDARIES, PACIFIC SALMON AND COMPREHENSIVE BILATERAL FISHERIES. DETAILS OF AGREEMENT WORKED OUT DURING TWO-WEEK SESSION IN JANUARY BUT NEGOTIA-

TIONS ADJOURNED WITH TWO MAJOR ISSUES LEFT TO RESOLVE: PACIFIC SALMON AND FRAMEWORK FOR HANDLING DISPUTED BOUNDARY AREA. IN SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS IN DEPARTMENT, CULMINATING WITH AGREEMENT AS PART OF AGENDA OF CARTER-TRUDEAU SUMMIT MEETINGS, TOTALLY NEUTRAL FRAMEWORK CONCEIVED FOR FISHING TO CONTINUE IN DISPUTED AREA ON GEORGES BANK. WITH REGARD TO PACIFIC SALMON, CANADIANS WANTED TO WRITE REGULATIONS CONTROLLING FISHING OF EACH IN ZONE OF OTHER INTO AGREEMENT. WE HOWEVER COULD NOT PREEMPT OUR REGIONAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. AGREEMENT THUS REFLECTS OUR REGULATORY REGIME BUT PROVIDES FOR FULL CONSULTATIONS GUIDED BY PRINCIPLES OF PRESERVING EXISTING PATTERNS OF RECIPROCAL FISHERIES AND TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION INTERESTS OF STATE OF ORIGIN IN SALMON SPAWNED IN ITS RIVERS.

3. FRASER RIVER CONVENTION, WHICH WILL BE AMENDED BY PROTOCOL, ESTABLISHED COMMISSION TO REGULATE SALMON FISHERY OF FRASER RIVER SYSTEM AS WELL AS ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INDUSTRY. PROTOCOL INCREASES NUMBER OF MEMBERS FROM EACH COUNTRY ON THAT COMMITTEE FROM SIX TO SEVEN. AMENDMENT REQUESTED BY US TO ALLOW TREATY INDIAN FISHERMEN REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEE AS PART OF EFFORTS UNDER-

WAY TO IMPLEMENT US VS WASHINGTON (POPULARLY KNOWN AS BOLDT DECISION) WHICH GRANTED TREATY INDIANS RIGHT TO 50 PERCENT OF US SHARE OF SALMON UNDER CONVENTION. PROTOCOL DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE PURPOSE OF SEVENTH POSITION AND HOW CANADA INTENDS FILL POSITION NOT KNOWN.

4. AGREED US-CANADIAN COMMUNIQUE ON SIGNATURE OF RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT. THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA TODAY SIGNED IN WASHINGTON A RECIPROCAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT TO PERMIT CONTINUATION OF FISHING BY FISHERMEN OF EACH COUNTRY OFF THE COASTS OF THE OTHER FOR 1977, FOLLOWING THE EXTENSION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE FISHERIES JURISDICTION TO 200 MILES. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON

THE CANADIAN SIDE BY L. H. LEGAULT, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORATE, DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENT, AND ON THE UNITED STATES SIDE BY AMBASSADOR ROZANNE L. RIDGWAY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR OCEANS AND FISHERIES AFFAIRS. THE AGREEMENT WILL ENTER INTO FORCE UPON COMPLETION OF INTERNAL PROCEDURES BY BOTH SIDES.

THE AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU. THE TWO LEADERS CONCURRED THAT A FISHERY AGREEMENT FOR 1977 SHOULD BE CONCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF THE SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH MARKED THEIR OVERALL DISCUSSIONS. THEY REVIEWED THE PRINCIPLES WHICH WOULD ENSURE THAT THE INTERESTS OF EACH IN THE FISHERY ZONE OF THE OTHER ARE ACCOMMODATED RECIPROCALLY FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS YEAR. THE TWO SIDES LOOKED FORWARD TO LONGER-TERM ARRANGEMENTS WHICH ARE YET TO BE NEGOTIATED. THEY WELCOMED THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT AS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF THEIR FISHERIES RELATIONSHIP AND AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THEIR CLOSE TIES AS NEIGHBORING STATES. END TEXT.

5. AGREED PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING OF PROTOCOL FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA SIGNED TODAY, IN WASHINGTON, A PROTOCOL AMENDING THE US/CANADA FRASER RIVER SALMON CONVENTION OF 1930. MR. RUSSELL MCKINNEY, MINISTER IN

THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, SIGNED FOR CANADA AND AMBASSADOR FREDERICK IRVING SIGNED FOR THE UNITED STATES. THE CONVENTION, WHICH ESTABLISHED A COMMISSION TO REGULATE THE SALMON FISHERY OF THE FRASER RIVER SYSTEM, ALSO PROVIDED FOR AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE COMMISSION CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE SALMON INDUSTRY. THE PROTOCOL SIGNED TODAY INCREASES THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS FROM EACH COUNTRY ON THAT COMMITTEE FROM SIX TO SEVEN. END TEXT.

6. COPIES OF AGREEMENTS BEING POUCHED. VANCE

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